GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1511
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002
SURVEY OF MENTAL ASYLUMS
A. KRISHNASWAMY;BODAKUNTI VENKATESHWARLU;JAYABEN B. THAKKAR;KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed to carry out a survey of medical asylums to ensure none of the patients was chained;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard; and

(c) the action proposed to set up at least one Central Government run Mental Hospital in each State and Union Territory in a time bound measure?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)&(b): In its order dated 5.2.2002, the Hon`ble Supreme Court directed all States and UnionTerritories to carry out district-wise survey of all mental asylums and submit a compliance report to the effect that no mentally challenged person is chained in any part of the State. Action in this regard is being taken by the concerned States/Union Territory Governments.

(c): The present policy of the Government is to strengthen the infrastructural facilities and services in the existing mental hospital/institutions in order to maximize the benefits to the mentally ill persons, rather than creating new infrastructure, at this stage.